

November 6, 2018

## **VIA ECFS**

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Notice of Oral Ex Parte: IB Docket No. 18-313

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On November 5th, 2018, representatives of Astroscale met with members of the Satellite Division of the Commission's International Bureau to discuss orbital debris remediation. This discussion is subject to *Permit But Disclose* rules<sup>1</sup> under IB Docket No. 18-313, "Mitigation of Orbital Debris in the New Space Age".

During the meeting, Astroscale expressed the need for post-mission disposal of satellites, particularly above a natural decaying orbit of 25 years (higher low-earth orbit). Further, Astroscale stated that a back-up post-mission disposal method should be used in the case where satellites stop functioning in higher low-earth orbit. Astroscale also expressed concern that a 25-year de-orbit time frame which is currently used as a standard practice<sup>2</sup> may no longer be sufficient for the sustainability of space due to increased congestion, both in active satellites and orbital debris.

Sincerely,

/s/ Charity Weeden

C. Weeden U.S. Managing Representative Astroscale

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 47 CFR §§ 1.1206, 1.1200(a)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Mitigation of Orbital Debris, Second Report and Order, para. 61 (2004)



## Commission representatives present:

Karl Kensinger Steven Duall Christopher Bair Merissa Velez

## <u>Astroscale representatives present:</u> Chris Blackerby

Charity Weeden

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